

# VS Form 17-6 Certificate for Poultry or Hatching Eggs for Export

*This form is required when poultry or eggs intended for hatching are to be exported to another country. Some destination countries require their own bilingual health certificate, some require both. The definition of “poultry” varies by destination country, so you should check with your VS Area Office for the export requirements.*

This document is intended to give guidance on how to complete VS Form 17-6. Recognize that these are not official directions and forms change over time. If you have any questions regarding how to complete this form, contact your VS Area Office. A properly completed form is critical to assure proper compliance.

1. **DATE OF SHIPMENT:** Date the specified poultry or eggs are to be shipped. This date would always be the same as or after the issue date entered in block 17.
2. **NAME AND ADDRESS OF EXPORTER:** Full name and address of the exporter. Identify the state where the poultry or eggs are currently located using the two-letter United States Postal Service (USPS) state code.
3. **NAME AND ADDRESS OF IMPORTER:** Full name and address of the importer. Identify the country of destination using the two-letter country code if known, otherwise leave blank.

NOTE: VS Form 17-6 version 2002 has errors: Box 2 on the right should be labeled Box 3; the FIPS STATE CODE in this box should state FIPS COUNTRY CODE. The VS Form 17-6 version 1995 is correct.

4. **QUANTITY/UNIT (EGGS-DOZEN; POULTRY-NUMBER):** Number of poultry, birds or eggs included in shipment. Provide quantity of eggs in number of dozens; quantity of animals as number of individual animals.
5. **VARIETY, STRAIN OR TRADE NAME:** Variety, strain or trade name of animals or eggs being exported. This information may be obtained from the exporter. Information is also available on the NPIP website at: <https://nPIP.aphis.usda.gov/nPIP/open/reports.do?report=report.productCodes>.
6. **PRODUCT:** Mark whether the product being shipped is “CHICKEN EGGS”, “TURKEY EGGS”, “CHICKS”, “POULTS”, or “OTHER”.
7. **SEX:** Indicate whether the poultry being shipped are “FEMALES”, “MALES”, or “STRAIGHT-RUN” (unsexed).
8. **TYPE (INTENDED USE):** Mark the appropriate box indicating the category and intended use of the poultry to be shipped
  - A. **Commercial Production Stock:** (Egg or baby poultry) not intended to be used for breeding purposes.
  - B. **Multiplier Breeding Flock:** A flock that is intended for the production of hatching eggs used for the purpose of producing progeny for commercial egg or meat production or for other non-breeding purposes. 9 CFR §145.1
  - C. **Primary Breeding Flock:** A flock composed of one or more generations that is maintained for the purpose of establishing, continuing, or improving parent lines. 9 CFR §145.1
9. **NPIP APPROVAL NO.:** National Poultry Improvement Program (NPIP) number. The producer can provide this to the accredited veterinarian or it can be found on the NPIP website under “Search the NPIP Directory of Participants” ([http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/poultry/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/poultry/)). It can also be obtained from the VS Area Office.
10. **NPIP CLASSIFICATION- U.S.:** Mark which classifications the poultry meet according to NPIP standards. This information can be found on the NPIP website at [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_dis\\_spec/poultry/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_dis_spec/poultry/). Classifications include: “PULLORUM-TYPHOID CLEAN”; “M. GALLISEPTICUM CLEAN”; “M. MELEAGRIDIS CLEAN”; “SANITATION MONITORED”. Use the “OTHER” area for applicable classification. For example: Avian Influenza (AI) Clean, S. Enteriditis Clean, M. Synoviae Clean, and Salmonella Monitored.

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**11. TOTAL NO. OF UNITS CERTIFIED FOR EXPORT:** Report either in dozens for eggs or number of individual birds.

**12. CHECK APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATION BELOW (A OR B):** Mark the appropriate statement that accurately describes the eggs or poultry to be shipped.

- A.** Certificate for Hatching Eggs and Newly Hatched Poultry, which have not been fed or watered.
- B.** Certificate for Poultry other than Newly Hatched Poultry Specified in Certificate A.

Box 12B requires that the flocks from which the eggs or poultry listed on the form were inspected by the issuing or another Accredited Veterinarian within the past 30 days and found free from evidence of infectious and contagious diseases. This certification is used for adult poultry.

Note: For shipment of day old chicks, Box 12A states the flock and/or hatchery from which the hatching eggs or newly hatched poultry originated from were inspected within 30 days prior to shipment or setting of eggs. Since eggs are set 22 days prior to shipment, the flocks of origin can actually be inspected as long as 52 days prior to shipment and still be in compliance if day old chicks are being exported. (30 days + 22 days = 52 days) NOTE: Be sure to allow ample time for the VS Form 17-6 to be endorsed at the VS Area Office and returned in time for the shipment of the day old chicks.

**13. REMARKS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Enter the Flock Inspection Date (and name of the Accredited Veterinarian who conducted the inspection if different from the issuing veterinarian), date of setting of eggs for shipment of day old chicks, and additional information such as lot identification, hatching information, seal numbers (if required) on specific pathogen free eggs and any other information that may be relevant or required by the destination country.

**14. TYPED NAME OF ISSUING VETERINARIAN:** Full name of the federally accredited veterinarian who is issuing (signing) this form.

**15. SIGNATURE OF ISSUING VETERINARIAN:** Signature of the federally accredited veterinarian who is issuing (signing) this form.

**16. STATUS:** Indicate whether the issuing veterinarian is a "STATE", "FEDERAL", or "ACCREDITED" veterinarian. The National Accreditation Number (NAN) should be listed after the typed name, if required.

**17. DATE ISSUED:** Date that the form was issued, which is the date the flock or the animals to be exported were inspected. If any testing is required, the form cannot be signed until the test results are known

Once the certificate is properly completed, it must be submitted to the VS Area Office and a VS Veterinarian will complete boxes 18 and 19 and apply the USDA Veterinary Services' seal.

**18. SIGNATURE OF ENDORSING FEDERAL VETERINARIAN:** Check with the VS Area Office.

**19. DATE ENDORSED:** To be completed by the VS Area Office.

**USDA VETERINARY SEAL:** To be completed by the VS Area Office.

There is no continuation sheet for VS Form 17-6.